



**Public Hearing Meeting Minutes
Gary and Kathryn Grosland Ground Mount Solar
September 9, 2019 7:00pm**

ATTENDANCE

Clerk Molly Weber
Supervisor Jim Sipe

Planning Commission Members Present

Jeremy Irrthum
David Peine
Mike Tix
Cassandra Schaffer
Ryan Sunquist

The purpose of the hearing is to consider, hear from the public, and act to make a recommendation to the Town Board regarding a conditional use permit for TruNorth Solar LLC to build a ground mount solar system located on PID# 17-00100-26-030, a 4.68 acre parcel owned by Gary and Kathryn Grosland, located at 8550 220th Street East, Hampton, MN 55031.

The standard Public Hearing Process was followed.

1. Introduction: outline the rules, talk about what the rules are and follow that plan
2. Establish the ground rules: public will be limited to 5 minutes
3. Applicant presentation: applicant presents what they want to build
4. Public Testimony: anyone from public can voice their opinion
5. Rebuttal Testimony: applicant can counter any questions made by the public testimony
6. Closing

Applicant Presentation:

Donna Pickert of TruNorth Solar, LLC presented the proposed a residential personal use ground mount system which is 14.95 kilowatt. There will be 46 panels. The footprint 36 feet by 39 feet and will be 2 rows. It looks like a fence from the back. The solar array will be located 60 feet south of the road and 80 feet in from west side of the property. There are already trees and bushes on north and west side of the array. Wires will be trenched back to the electrical main. Dakota Electric has approved this plan.

Public Testimony:

This was limited to 5 minutes per person.

Barb Braun asked if there would be a buzzing noise. Donna answered that there would be an inverter at Gary's house that makes a very quiet hum.

Pete Braun asked what the maximum feet from the ground would be and the answer was 10 feet. He also asked if they turned with the sun and the answer was, "they do not." Everything is stationary.

Jim Sipe asked if it was one inverter was separate from all the panels and the answer was yes.

The last discussion about the solar project on 081219 included review of the setbacks and requirements for the conditional use permit as stated in section 710: Conditional Use Permits of the Hampton Township Zoning Ordinance.

Rebuttal: none

Planning Commission Discussion: none

Cassandra Schaffer made a motion that the Planning Commission recommend to the Town Board that Gary Grosland be allowed to install his solar system because it meets all the setbacks and all the township requirements. Ryan Sunquist seconded. Motion carried.

Jeremy advised that the Planning Commission makes recommendations but the Town Board makes the final decision at the meeting on 091719 at 7pm. Donna stated she cannot make the meeting next week and didn't know if any representative from TruNorth could attend. Jim Sipe told her this did not look controversial with no questions or concerns brought up tonight. Jim said the Board would consider the recommendation of the Planning Commission and if they are happy with the recommendation then our attorney will be asked to draft a resolution including all the conditions that they have already seen like those in the Zoning Ordinance including them to follow the plan and then the Conditional Use Permit will be filed with the property so if property owner sold the property the next owner would have permission to continue the solar. The conditions would be based on what they are asking for in this situation.

Dave Peine made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing at 7:13pm. Cassandra Schaffer seconded. Public Hearing was closed.